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M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

- for the -

Y E A R 1953

## BROADWOODWIDGER RURAL DISTRICT

### Annual Report for the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1953.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report for the year 1953 in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

Thirty-three births were registered during the year giving a birth rate per 1,000 population of 17.3 as against one of 15.5 for England & Wales.

The general health of the district was good during the year and the vital statistics set out hereunder compare very favourably with those for the Country as a whole.

#### General Statistics

Area (in acres) .....	29,294
Population - 1931 Census .....	2,177
Population - 1951 Census .....	2,028
Estimated Home Population - Mid 1953 .....	2,039
Parishes .....	6
Number of Inhabited Houses .....	567
Rateable Value .....	£4,475
Product of Penny Rate .....	£17-17-2.809
Loan Debt .....	£40,260-7-3

#### Vital Statistics

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births .....	15	18	33
Legitimate .....	14	18	
Illegitimate .....	1	-	

England & Wales

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	16.2	15.5
Corrected Birth Rate .....	17.3	
Still Births .....	2	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live & still births	57.1	22.4

	Male	Female	Total	
Deaths .....	9	15	24	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population .....	11.8		11.4	England & Wales
Corrected Death Rate .....	11.3			
Deaths from Maternal Causes .....		Nil		
Maternal Mortality .....		-		0.76
Deaths of Infants under 1 year .....		1		
Infant Mortality .....	30.3		26.8	

The chief causes of death were as follows:-

Infectious Causes:

Whooping Cough .....	1
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General Causes:

Heart Disease .....	6
Cancer .....	5
Cerebral Vascular Disease .....	2
Coronary Disease .....	2
Diabetes .....	1
Disease of the Prostate .....	1
Accidental .....	1
Other Causes .....	4

Infants under 1 year:

Broncho Pneumonia of both Lungs	1
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Total 24

Age of Death Table

Age at Death	Male	Female
Infants under 1 year .....	1	-
1 - 5 years .....	-	1
5 - 15 "	-	-
15 - 25 "	-	-
25 - 35 "	-	-
35 - 45 "	-	1
45 - 55 "	1	-
55 - 65 "	1	6
65 - 75 "	4	1
75 and over .....	2	6

Totals: 9 15

### General Provision of Health Services

General provision of health services remained as previously and are generally adequate.

### Infectious Diseases

There was a moderate epidemic of measles amongst the children.

The following cases of Measles and Whooping Cough were notified by the doctors:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Whooping Cough</u>		<u>Measles</u>		
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	
Under 1 year	-	1	-	-	
1 - 2 years	1	1	6	1	
3 - 4 years	2	-	2	4	
5 - 9 years	3	-	16	15	
10 - 14 years	-	-	3	8	
15 - 24 years	-	-	1	1	
25 and over	-	-	-	-	
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Totals:	6	2	28	29	

In addition 39 cases of Measles, 5 cases of Whooping Cough, and 1 case of Chicken Pox were notified from North Petherwin School.

Diphtheria: No case occurred during the year and immunisation against the disease was continued.

Tuberculosis: One new case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified but no death was recorded. At the end of the year five people remained on the register - 4 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary.

In conclusion I would thank the Council for the ready hearing I always receive, and Mr. Judd who has once again kindly prepared the Section on Housing and Sanitation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E.D. ALLEN-PRICE.

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

COUNCIL HOUSES

St. Giles-in-the-Heath

Two pairs of traditional houses were completed and occupied during the year.

East Kitcham:

One pair of traditional houses was completed and occupied during the year.

Woodley Park:

A block of four Council houses was under construction during the year.

The Council houses completed or under construction in Parishes is as follows:

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>UNDER CONSTRUCTION</u>
Broadwoodwidger	4	4
North Petherwin	6	-
Northcott Hamlet	Nil	-
St. Giles-in-the-Heath	6	-
Virginstow	Nil	-
Werrington	8	-
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	Total 24	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Private Enterprise Houses completed during the Year ..... Nil

PLANS

The following plans were approved :-

Dwelling House .....	1
Alterations to existing dwellings ...	3
Garage .....	1
Bathroom, W.C. and septic tank drainage..	8

HOUSING STATISTICS:

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:-

(a) No. of dwelling houses inspected for defects under Public Health or Housing Acts ...	25
(b) Inspections made for the purpose ...	53

2.

(a) No. of dwelling houses inspeected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925/32	18
(b) Inspections made for the purpose ...	21

3. No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation . 2

4. Dwelling houses (exclusive of those under preceding sub-heading) not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation 20

5. Remedy of defects during the year without the service of Formal Notices ... 15

No. of houses rendered fit in consequence of action by Local Authority or Office:-

Housing Act...	Nil
Public Health Act : ...	3

6. Notices under Section 11, Housing Act 1936 Property since demolished ... 1

7. Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11 and still in force ... 1

8. Notices under Public Health Act ... 4

9. Applications received for Improvement Grant under the Housing Act 1949 ... Nil

## FOOD SUPPLIES:

### Bakeries:

There are none in the district.

### Butchers:

There is only one resident in the district and the conditions under which meat is stored is not satisfactory.

### Grocers:

There are seven general stores from which groceries are sold. One is a reasonably large shop the remainder being small and consisting of one room being divided off from the remainder of the dwelling house. Conditions are as satisfactory as may be expected.

### Ice Cream:

There are two retailers of pre-packed ice cream. The four samples taken for analysis were all Grade 1.

## MEAT INSPECTION

Meat sold in the district has been killed at the Launceston Abattoir where it is subject to efficient inspection.

### MILK:

There are no dairies or milk distributors as defined under the Milk and Dairies Regulations in the district. The whole of the milk production and distribution is carried on by producers and producer-retailers and the supervision of such premises is carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries.

## WATER SUPPLIES:

During the year the North Devon Water Board accepted a tender from Messrs. Unwins of Tiverton for the laying of a 4" water main from Ashmill to Box's Shop a distance of about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles. At the time of writing this report the main laying is in progress. This piped water supply will be the first in the district.

Also, in December, the North Devon Water Board agreed to the sinking of a borehole near Petherwin Gate. If, after tests, the supply from the borehole is found satisfactory and sufficient the Board will submit to the Ministry a small local scheme for the

supply of water to the Petherwin Gate area.

Samples submitted for analysis .....	15
Satisfactory .....	5
Unsatisfactory .....	10

REFUSE COLLECTION:

Refuse is collected monthly in that part of the district including Petherwin Gate, Langdon, Ladycross and Yeolmbridge. About 75% of the remainder of the district is served with a quarterly collection.

FACTORIES:

There are two factories registered under the Factories Act 1937. Conditions at both factories are satisfactory.

DRAINAGE:

There are no seweried areas in the district with the exception of a sewer for waste-water only at Petherwin Gate. During the year 8 properties have been converted from Pail Closets to water closets and septic tank drainage.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Council for the support and ready hearing which they always give me.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T.A.JUDD

Sanitary Inspector.

